(b) whether modalities of trade have been finalised;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof country-wise and if apt, us reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government also propose to explore possibilities of counter trade with these countries; and

(e) if so, details thereof and if nof, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e) Within the framework of the existing trade agreements with USSR (valid upto 1995), Romania (valid upto Oct, 1992) and Czechoslovakia (valid upto Dec 1992), annual trade protocols with these countries will be finalised by Dec., 1991 or early 1992. The possibilities of counter—trade are considered on merits while finalising the protocols. A trade agreement with Madagascar valid for two years from 1992 would also be finalised.

निर्यातकों को दी जाने वाली नकद आवश्यक सहायता की बकाया राशि

1036. डा० अंसार अहमद : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) निर्यातकों को दी जाने वाली नकद आवश्यक सहायता की कितनी राशि बकाया है और यह राशि कब से बकाया है तथा इसका अब तक भुगतान न किए जाने के क्या कारण हैं और इसका भुगतान कब तक कर दिया जायेगा ;

(ख) क्या सरकार इस वजह से निर्यातकों को हुए नुकसान की क्षतिपूर्ति करेगी अथवा उक्त भुगतान करने में विलम्ब के लिए जिम्मेदार अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही करेगी ; और

(ग) किन-किन निर्यातकों को नकद आवश्यक सहायता की बकाया राशि देय है तथा प्रत्येक निर्यातक को कितनी बकाया राशि देय है ।

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० चिदम्बरम्) : (क) दिनांक 2-7-91 को जब सी सी एस योजना समाप्त की गई तब तक निर्यातकों द्वारा किये गये निर्यात के लिए उनके सी सी एस दावों की लगभग 550/- करोड़ रुपये की राशि बकाया आंकी गई है। निधियों की अपर्याप्तता के कारण इनका भुगतान नहीं किया जा सका । शीघ्र ही, जब मंत्रालय के पास निधि उपलब्ध होगी, उनका भुगतान कर दिया जाएगा ।

(ख) चूंकि नकद मुआवजा सहायता योजना में विलम्ब से अदायगी होने पर किसी तरह की क्षतिपूर्ति की व्यवस्था नहीं है इसलिए भुगतान न करने के लिए अधिकारियों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई करने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता है :

(ग) सीसीएस भुगतान के तर्यातकवार ब्यौरे सी सी एस के भुगतान के बाद ही रखे जाते हैं । इसलिए इस स्वर पर इस तरह के ब्यौरे उपलब्ध नहीं हैं ।

Simplification of Export

1037. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Witt: the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to simplify exports and make the export procedure in tune with the global market:

(b) by when will the paper work for exports be the same as in U.S.A., U.K. or Japan;

(c) the time by when the country expects trade surplus, and what is the projection year by year; and

(d) what is the annual interest charges on our foreign borrowing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) (i) A number of items have been decontrolled for export which were earlier on the banned, ceiling, merit, OGL or on canalised list. This eliminates the need for licences and related procedural formalities In respect of these items.

(id) The recruitment of compulsory preshipment inspection in respect of agricultural and food products, fruit products, fish and fishery products, chemicals and allied products, engineering t>roducts, jute products, coir products including coir yarn (baled) and (non baled) hand knitted woollen carpets, footware components and human hair double drawn has been dispensed with provided the exporter produces a firm letter from overseas buyer that he does not want preshipment inspection from any Indian Inspection Agency and files it with the Customs authority at the time of shipment.

(iii) 17 out of 25 preshipment export documents required by the exoorters have been simplified, aligned and standardised on the basis of United Nations layout key which has been adopted by most of the developed countries including developing countries like Hong Kong, Singapore, Srilanka and Indonesia. The new system effected from 1st October, 1991 enables the exporter to prepare 17 out of 25 documents with the help of two Master Documents and use of a photo copier and appropriate masks with economy, accuracy, speed and convenience thereby reducing export documentation burden on our exporters appreciably.

(b) Most " the developed countries in cluding U.S.A., U.K. and Japan have ad opted United Nations layout key for docu ments connected with trade and transport. The new system is expected to put India at par with their practices.

(c) It is difficult to precisely estimate when the country could achieve a trade surplus for it depends on a number of global and domestic factors like international trading environment, prices in-ternational ternational market, domestic requirement of essential items etc.

(d) The interest charges for the year 1990-91 is Rs. 4069 Crores.

Export of Rice

1038. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had permitted export of rice during the year 1990-91;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government have received any representation from the All-India Rice Exporters Association to release the quota of non-basmati rice for exports; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken by Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 2,41,830 MTs of basmati rice valued at Rs. 288.06 crores and 3,13,720 MTs of non-Basmati rice valued at rupees! 187.83 crores were exported during 1990-91.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A quota of 2 lakh MTs of non-Basmati rice was released and placed at the disposal of Agricultural and Processed Food Proucts Expi^t Development Authority in addition to the earlier quota of 5 lakh MTs released for 1991-92

Investment by French firms in India

1039. UMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA; Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that while inaugurating the Ninth meeting of the Indo-French Joint Business Council he had given an invitation to the French Industrialists to invest in the sector of Computer Software. Food Processing, Telecommunications, Pollution control, superconductivity and Chemicals, etc. in India; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the French Industrialists to this invitation?